



## San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sierra Region

# WING BEAT NEWS

FEBRUARY 2006

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/reg4/wingbeat/>

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Los Baños Wildlife Area  
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"Wing Beat News" is informational only; it is not designed as a substitute for the regulation books

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### USEFUL PAGES ON THE DFG WEBSITE

To find information about ...

**General Hunting and Fishing Regulations:**

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/html/regs.html>

**Information about Hunting and Fishing License**

**Fees:**

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/index.html>

**Reduced-fee Fishing Licenses:**

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/fishing/sportfishingfreereduced.html>

**Or browse through the website yourself at**

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

### SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AND SOUTHERN SIERRA REGION WING BEAT NEWS IS ALSO AVAILABLE BY EMAIL

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The newsletter will be sent as a Portable Document File (.pdf). Therefore, you must have Adobe Reader installed on your computer to read the file. Adobe Reader is available free online at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

The online version of the newsletter is available for viewing at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/reg4/wingbeat/>

### GET READY FOR WILD ON WETLANDS WEEKEND

Mark April 8<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for Wild on Wetlands. WOWW is a wetland and wildlife-themed festival held each spring in Los Banos. The event is held in Downtown Los Banos in conjunction with the Los Banos Chamber of Commerce Downtown Street Faire. Come join us for a fun-filled day of Wetlands! There is something for everyone! You can register for tours online at [www.losbanos.com/wow.html](http://www.losbanos.com/wow.html) or visit our tent at the Westside Intermediate School parking lot, on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, downtown Los Banos. Bring the entire family, take a tour, visit our tent to see the interactive displays and pet the ducklings: a whole day of fun for FREE. For more information call the Los Banos Chamber of Commerce at 1-800-336-6354 or visit their website at [www.losbanos.com](http://www.losbanos.com).

## **KIDS LEARN ABOUT WETLANDS AT GEECe**

Children are tomorrow's decision makers. In the not too distant future they will be making important choices concerning the environment, and specifically our local grasslands and wetlands in the San Joaquin Valley. What better way to educate kids about the value of wetlands than with a visit to the Grassland Environmental Education Center (GEECe)? GEECe is a field trip facility that was established in 1995 as an opportunity for elementary school students to learn about the ecologically significant ecosystems located in the San Joaquin Valley. Through a visit to GEECe, children learn about the ecology of the Central Valley's freshwater marshes and the shared roles of sportsmen, the farming community, and wildlife managers as wetland stewards.

A typical visit to GEECe includes an opening discussion about wetland ecology, including the history of the local grasslands and wetlands, the plants and animals found in wetlands, and why wetland conservation is an important matter that directly affects everyone. The students then divide into groups for California curriculum standards-based activity stations consisting of owl pellet dissection, pond water analysis, reading and writing, and wetland arts and crafts. After lunch the group goes outdoors to participate in more action-packed and educational activity stations on the shore of the seasonal and permanent ponds located adjacent to the education center.

Thousands of children have visited GEECe since its opening. This is often the first instance a child gets to experience an activity of this nature. A visit to GEECe many times has developed a lifetime of curiosity and interest for the environment and protecting our natural resources. GEECe is open for tours by reservation only from November through May to school classes, youth groups such as Boy and Girl Scouts, as well as interested adult groups. GEECe is made possible by a partnership between Grassland Water District and the CA Department of Fish and Game along with grants and donations. For more information or to schedule a field trip, contact Janae Scruggs at (209) 704-4772.

## **SIGN UP FOR HUNTER SAFETY CLASSES NOW!**

Do you know a youth or adult that would like to learn about the sport of hunting? Now is the time to find a hunter safety class for that person and get him or her enrolled so they will have a hunting license before dove, pheasant, or waterfowl season. Don't wait until the week before the season opens, as classes may be unavailable in your area at that time.

All new hunters in California, regardless of age, must have a hunter safety certificate before they can obtain a hunting license.

Many hunters going out of state will be required to produce a valid hunter safety certificate before obtaining their out of state license and tags, even though they have a current California license. So if you can't find your certificate, you may want to sign up for a class.

To locate a class near you, check at your favorite sporting goods store or call the nearest Regional DFG Office listed at the back of this newsletter.

## **DON'T FORGET TO APPLY FOR BIG GAME TAGS TO MEET THE DRAWING DEADLINE**

Do you plan to apply for antelope, elk, bighorn sheep or deer tags this year? The deadline for applying has not yet been set; however, be sure to check the with your local Regional DFG Office or DFG website after mid-March.

Pamphlets containing pertinent information for the draw will be soon available at Regional DFG Offices and sporting goods stores. This same information will be made available online on the Department's website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>. Information about applications for antelope, deer, elk and bighorn sheep drawings may be obtained from the DFG website and through license agents. To locate a license agent near your home or for more information call (916) 227-2245.

## **LEARN ABOUT WILDLIFE AND WETLANDS THROUGH A GUIDED TOUR**

For many years, school classes, youth groups, and adult groups have participated in guided tours of the wildlife areas in the Los Baños Complex. Local schools and organized groups have learned not only how exciting wildlife can be, but how these wildlife areas can be used as an extension of the school classroom or discussion item. The tours may center on a wide variety of specific topics such as bird identification, habitat management, water manipulation, and plant identification. Programs are tailored for each group with consideration given to grade level, state curriculum standards and other group needs. The free tours are available throughout the year, but prior arrangements must be made. Reservations can be made by calling Janae Scruggs at (209) 704-4772.

## **DEER AND PIG HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES ON WESTERN MERCED COUNTY WILDLIFE AREAS**

Deer and wild pig hunting on wildlife areas in western Merced County will be available during the Zone A deer season to hunters with the proper tags and a valid license. Please read the "Hunting and Other Public Uses on State and Federal Lands" pamphlet for complete and specific information. Information is also

available on the Department's website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>.

**Upper Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area (4,000 acres):**

Rifles and pistols, legal for the taking of big game are allowed on Upper Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area (UCCWA) for hunting deer and/or wild pig.

To prevent overcrowding, the number of persons hunting deer or wild pig on UCCWA during the opening weekend of the Zone A general rifle season (second Saturday and Sunday in August), will be limited to 35 persons. Permits will be available through a computerized drawing to be held at the Los Baños Wildlife Area at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2006. The public is welcome to attend the drawing.

To apply for the drawing include the following information on a postcard only: ① hunter's name, ② complete mailing address, ③ telephone number, and ④ 2006-2007 hunting license number. Up to four persons may apply as a group if all of the information for each hunter is listed on one postcard. A person's name may appear in the drawing only once. There is no cost for the drawing or permit. Mail postcard applications to: Deer Drawing, Los Baños Complex, 18110 W. Henry Miller Avenue, Los Baños, CA 93635. Cards must arrive prior to 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2006. Successful applicants will be notified by mail. Call (209) 826-0463 for additional information.

Wild pig hunting opportunities on UCCWA opens with the Zone A deer season with either bow and arrow, rifle, or pistol, depending on the season. Wild pigs may be taken from the opening of Zone A deer season through the last Sunday in January. However, the opening weekend of general (rifle) season is restricted to persons holding a permit issued through a drawing to be held on July 5. For persons who desire to hunt wild pig with rifles or pistols legal for the taking of big game the remainder of the season, the area is open from the Monday after the opening of the general Zone A deer season through the last Sunday in January.

**Lower Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area (2,000 acres):**

On Lower Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area (LCCWA) hunters are restricted to shotguns with slugs, 12 gauge or smaller, or bow and arrow.

On LCCWA, wild pig hunting opportunities will be the same as on UCCWA with two exceptions: 1) only shotgun with slugs, 12 gauge or smaller, or bow and arrow may be used and 2) there is no drawing restriction for opening weekend of the general Zone A deer season at this time. No rifles or pistols are allowed on the LCCWA.

**San Luis Reservoir Wildlife Area (900 acres):** On San Luis Reservoir Wildlife Area (SLRWA) hunters are restricted to shotguns with slugs, 12 gauge or smaller, or

bow and arrow. There is no drawing restriction for opening weekend of the general Zone A deer season at this time.

Pig hunting is available on SLRWA throughout the year; however the number of pigs taken in the past has been low. Method of take is restricted to shotgun with slugs, 12 gauge or smaller, or bow and arrow.

**Little Panoche Reservoir Wildlife Area (780 acres):**

Pig hunting is available on Little Panoche Reservoir Wildlife Area throughout the year; however as with SLRWA, the number of pigs taken in the past has been low. Method of take is restricted to shotgun with slugs, 12 gauge or smaller, or bow and arrow.

**SPRING & SUMMER BIRDING ON  
LOS BANOS COMPLEX**

The eight units of the Los Banos Wildlife Complex offer a diverse array of birdwatching opportunities. The complex's 18,000 acres range from valley floor freshwater marsh, grassland, and riparian corridors to steep, hilly grassland and oak woodland. Here are several areas worth visiting during the spring months.

The Los Banos and Volta Wildlife Areas are composed of seasonal and permanent marsh, sloughs, lakes, grassland, shrublands, and riparian corridors. The Los Banos Wildlife Area is the most accessible and diverse of the two areas. During the spring and summer (February - September 15), the wildlife area is open seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, road conditions permitting. Register at the self-registration booth at the entrance to the area and pick up a map of the area and a bird list. There is a \$2.50 entrance fee if you do not have a California hunting or fishing license. There is a public tour route and all other roads are accessible by foot or bicycle. There are several places worth stopping along the public tour route. Ruth Lake is a good place to see Western and Clark's Grebes. The Buttonwillow Lakes often hold American White Pelicans and several species of waterfowl through the early spring. Scout the various wetlands along the road for waterfowl, shorebirds, and other waterbirds. Portions of the areas may be closed after August 15 to prevent disturbance of early arriving waterfowl.

As with any visit to a wildlife area or refuge in the Central Valley, be prepared for the possibility of mosquitoes, mud, and hot temperatures. Remember that West Nile Virus has been found on the wildlife area. Please take precautions by applying insect repellent when around wetland areas. Call (209) 826-0463 for additional information. Enjoy the birding!

## **THERE'S STILL PLENTY TO DO AT WILDLIFE AREAS AFTER WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASON ENDS**

Some people mistakenly believe that the major (Type A) wildlife areas where most duck and pheasant hunting takes place, are closed to the public after the hunting season closes. Actually, the majority of public use occurs between the months of February and mid-September. Fishing is the activity that attracts the most users. Frogging is another popular activity to do during the warm months. Most of the areas have a self-registration booth to register your visit and obtain a map of the area.

Many hunters have found February and March great months to visit the waterfowl/pheasant hunt areas and learn more about the "lay of the land" for the next year's hunting trips. Visit one of the areas where you usually do not hunt, get a map and explore! You may find lots of new areas to try out next year.

Dog trials and training is another activity on several of the Type A areas. The areas are closed to these activities April, May and June for the nesting season.

Bird populations are at peak numbers during February and March so whether you are a birder or not, come out and enjoy nature's display of wildlife. Bring your bird book and binoculars and see how many different species of birds you can find.

Hiking and bicycling are popular sports and many enjoy the quiet solitude of the wildlife areas. Others enjoy camping on Mendota or Los Banos Wildlife Areas.

So come explore the wildlife areas and spend some quiet time outdoors. For other information call Los Banos WA at (209) 826-0463 or Mendota WA (559) 655-4645.

## **LESSER KNOWN WILDLIFE AREAS FOR YOU TO EXPLORE AND ENJOY**

The Central San Joaquin Valley is home of seven wildlife areas that may not be as well known as the Type A wildlife areas but are also open for public use with some restrictions. Listed below are short descriptions of these Type C (no fee) areas. For additional information or maps call (209) 826-0463.

**O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area:** Enjoy a leisurely walk through the 700 acre wildlife area. Located south of Santa Nella, the O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area is known as the home of the Junior Pheasant Hunts, but has many other public use opportunities. The wildlife area is comprised of long riparian corridors interspersed with dense shrubland and open grassland. The area is open everyday and is free of charge; register at the self-

registration booth. Maps of the O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area (in fact, all wildlife areas in the complex) are available at the office on the Los Banos Wildlife Area. Roads are dirt and gravel and make hiking and birdwatching easily accessible. Dog training is allowed and several dog field trials will be held on the area during February, March, and November. Birding for small passerines is excellent. The area is an excellent location to spot spring migrants and some interesting breeding birds as well. Warblers, vireos, thrushes, and kinglets are very common in the riparian areas during the months of April and May. Two species of hummingbirds, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Loggerhead Shrikes, Swainson's Hawks, White-tailed Kites, and rails are common breeders.

**San Luis Reservoir Wildlife Area:** Located at the top of Pacheco Pass on Dinosaur Point Road is an area that overlooks the San Luis Reservoir. It is a beautiful spot to have a picnic, take a nature walk, and enjoy the wildflowers. Oaks, chamise and holly-leaf cherry abound on the area.

**Upper Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area:** The 4,000 acre wildlife area in western Merced County, just off Highway 152, is open to hunting from the opening of Zone A deer season through the last Sunday in January. The steep and rugged land is an excellent place for hiking. Wildflowers can put on a very good show in the spring.

**Lower Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area:** While not as steep as Upper Cottonwood Creek WA, the 2,000 acre area offers easier hiking and access. The area is open to hunting from the opening of Zone A deer season through the last Sunday in January. Look for wildflowers a bit earlier than the other areas since this wildlife area is a bit lower in elevation.

**Little Panoche Reservoir Wildlife Area:** Spring is a good time for fishing in the Little Panoche Reservoir located about seven miles west of Interstate 5 on Little Panoche Road. While the trail down to the water is steep, black bass, crappie and sunfish make the hike worth while. Dog trials and training are also very popular in February and March.

**West Hilmar Wildlife Area:** Access to the 340 acre wildlife area is by boat only so there won't be a lot of other people visiting while you are there. There are lots of oak and cottonwood trees on the area and it is an excellent place to visit for a quiet picnic.

**Kinsman Flat Wildlife Area:** Manzanita and oaks are found on the 450 acre wildlife area in the Sierra Mountains located at about 4,000 feet elevation. It is a good area for a fairly easy hike. Call (559) 243-4005, ext. 132 for additional information and weapon restrictions.

## **START CHASING COTTONTAILS ON JULY 1**

Cottontail rabbit hunting will open on July 1 to hunters with valid hunting licenses. Shoot times are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. See specific regulations for hunting on wildlife areas at the Department's website. Cottontail populations fluctuate from year to year as they are highly dependent upon grass and forb production.

The Mendota, Los Baños, Volta, North Grasslands (Gadwall, Salt Slough, and China Island Units), Little Panoche Reservoir, and O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Areas are traditionally very popular locations to hunt rabbits. Remember, only shotguns, 12 gauge or smaller, can be used on State wildlife areas for hunting rabbits.

## **WELCOME SPRING TO PACHECO STATE PARK**

Help welcome spring to the foothills on a morning hike at Pacheco State Park with Naturalist Jennifer Morgan to view the 2006 wildflower display. The park's sturdy wind-sculpted oaks and hillsides will be covered with fresh green grass and an array of colorful wildflowers, and the group will also be watching for soaring birds as they enjoy vistas of San Luis Reservoir. Along the way, stops are made to discuss the Native American and pioneer uses of the plants there.

After the moderate hike, you'll return to the picnic area and those who wish to may stay for lunch (please provide your own sack lunch). Be sure to bring waterproof hiking footwear, layered clothing and hat, sun screen, water, and an optional sack lunch. (Also optional: rain gear, binoculars, camera, and field guides.) Note: the park entrance fee is \$5 per car. Meet in the Pacheco State Park Parking Area at 10 AM. The hikes will take place on weekends in April except Easter Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Pacheco State Park is located 24 miles west of Los Baños and 20 miles east of Gilroy on Dinosaur Point Road off of Highway 152. The park is located along the scenic, historic Pacheco Pass. For more information please call (209) 826-1196 (or 826-1197).

## **PACHECO STATE PARK OFFERS A SPRINGTIME HIKE**

The new ranger at Pacheco State Park is pleased to announce an additional springtime hike, which will be offered in concert with our usual naturalist-led wildflower hikes.

The Pacheco Adobe Hike will begin at noon on weekends in April (excluding Easter Sunday April 16th). Ranger Poole will take visitors on a one hour, one mile round-trip walk to view the remains of the adobe house

which was the first house of this type built in Merced County, and is seldom visited. Along the way, he will discuss the history of Pacheco State Park including the Francisco Pacheco family, the Rancho San Luis Gonzaga land grant, and the energy producing wind turbine farm.

Visitors may elect to take Jennifer's 2 mile hike at 10 a.m. and then immediately join Ranger Poole, or, they can just be ready at noon for his hike, which is shorter and much less strenuous.

No advance reservations for either hike are necessary for groups under 10 people.

## **EXPLORE THE POPULAR "PATH OF THE PADRES" WITH CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS**

The staff at San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area will again be leading the popular "Path of the Padres" hikes on most Saturdays and Sundays starting March 4th and continuing until April 30th. These hikes are open to the public, ages 6 years and older, by advance reservation only. School group hikes may be arranged for Thursdays or Fridays. School group reservations opened December 1st but there are still many dates available.

The hike begins at the Los Baños Creek Reservoir boat launch ramp at 8:00 A.M. and returns to the ramp about 3:30 P.M. A pontoon boat carries passengers for about 30 to 40 minutes to the west end of the reservoir. Along the way, short stops are made so the hikers can observe wildlife along the shoreline.

The group disembarks at the west end of the reservoir for a five mile round-trip hike. Here they see the area where, in the early 1800's, the Spanish padres from Mission San Juan Bautista camped on their way to the Central Valley. This hike is moderately strenuous and will take about 5 hours.

Participants must be in fairly good physical condition. Because Los Baños Creek is crossed several times during the hike, footwear may get wet. Layered clothing and sturdy footgear should be a priority. Hikers must carry their own lunch and a minimum of 2 quarts of water. The hike traverses country that can be very hot and dry, depending on weather conditions, so a hat and/or sunscreen are highly recommended. Throughout the hike, the natural and historic features of the area are observed and discussed by the hike leader. The lunch stop is near the historic "baths," deep pools in the creek carved in bedrock, which gave Los Baños its name. As early as 1805 the mission padres and accompanying soldiers washed and rested here at Los Baños del Padre Arroyo, now simply Los Baños Creek.

Participants have the option of taking a side trip up a steep hill for a spectacular view of the Menjoulet Canyon and the proposed site of the Los Baños Grandes reservoir. The canyon floor is covered with 576 acres of old-growth Sycamore forest, described by Department of Fish & Game biologists as the largest and most intact natural community of its kind left in California. Binoculars add greatly to enjoyment of the scene, and may help hikers spot the falcons and eagles that are often seen in the area.

Reservations are required for this exciting series of hikes and they will be accepted at the park office starting on Monday February 6, 2006. To make a reservation, call (209) 826-1196 Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. A non-refundable reservation fee of \$5.00 per person is required to confirm the telephone reservations. Space is limited: please book early. On the day of the hike, an additional day use parking fee of \$6.00 per car is charged upon entry.

For more information on any of these hikes, please call (209) 826-1196 (or 826-1197), or Pacheco State Park 826-6283.

## **VARIOUS TYPES OF LICENSES AVAILABLE FOR SOME RESIDENTS AT LOWER COST**

Some people are under the impression that senior citizens do not need a fishing license. Actually, any person over the age of 16 is required to carry a fishing license while fishing. However, there are reduced fee and free fishing licenses available if you meet certain criteria.

Contact the DFG's License and Revenue Branch at (916) 227-2245 or visit the DFG's website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov> to see if you qualify.

## **FREE FISHING DAY SET FOR 2006**

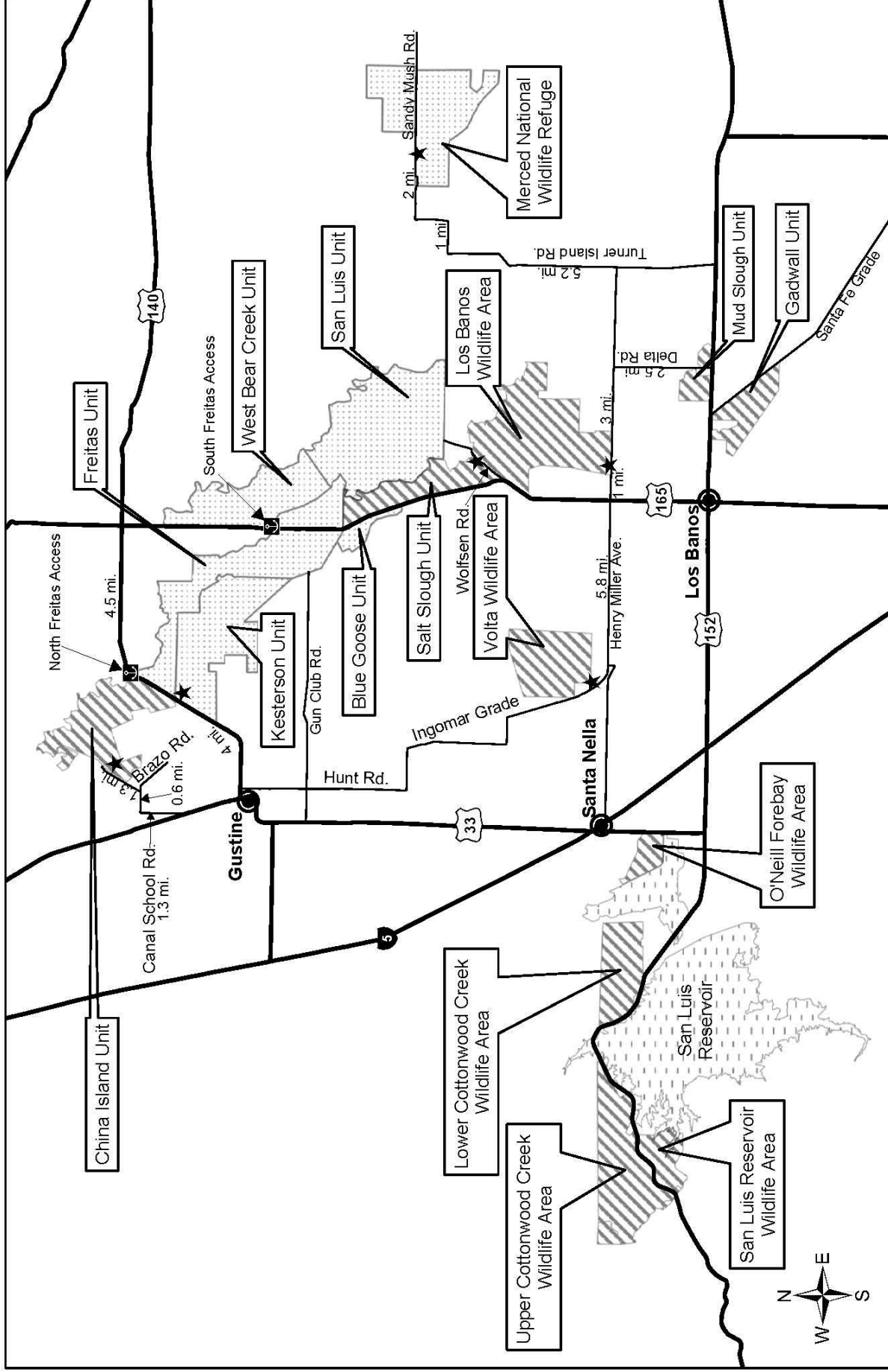
This year's Free Fishing Days will be June 10 and September 23, 2006. On Free Fishing Days, licenses and stamps are not needed to fish anywhere in California. Anglers still must comply with methods of take, bag and size limits, and other regulations. Free Fishing Days are a great way to introduce family members and friends to fishing. So take someone fishing on these days and introduce them to a wonderful and relaxing sport.

**WATERFOWL AND PHEASANT HUNTING RESULTS SUMMARY  
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS  
INCLUDING JUNIOR HUNTS**

\*pheasants released on area

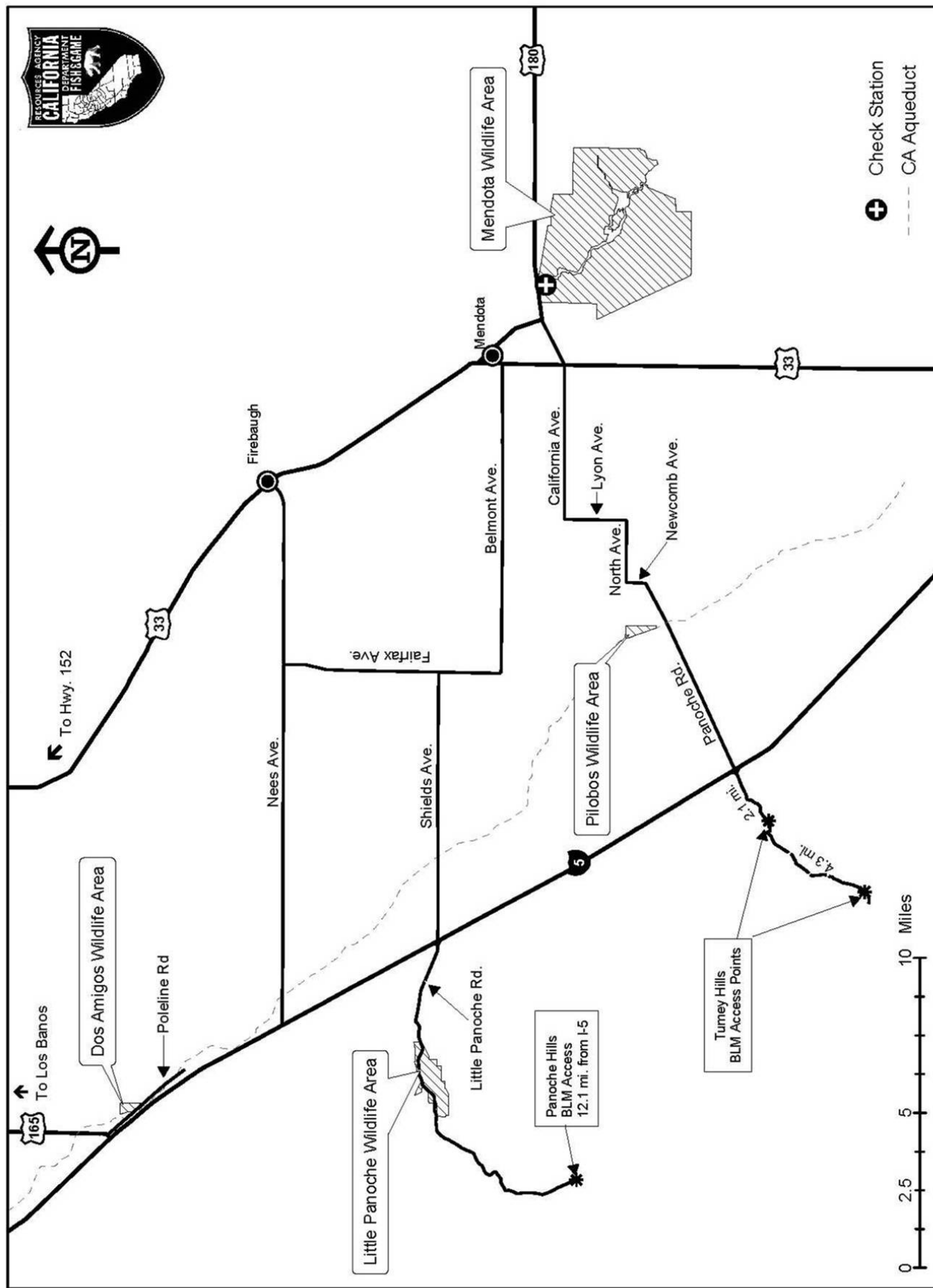
<b>Season</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Total Hunters</b>	<b>Total Ducks</b>	<b>Avg Ducks</b>	<b>Total Geese</b>	<b>Total Waterfowl</b>	<b>Average Waterfowl</b>	<b>Total Pheasants</b>
<b>2005-2006</b>	LOS BANOS WLA	4799	7601	1.70	163	7803	1.75	226*
	VOLTA WLA	1693	2939	1.78	2	3224	1.96	36
	NORTH GRASSLAND WLA							
	SALT SLOUGH UNIT	1793	2757	1.75	11	2807	1.78	105
	GADWALL UNIT	1122	3512	3.18	7	3526	3.19	13
	CHINA ISLAND UNIT	1300	1708	1.64	8	1739	1.67	136*
	MENDOTA WLA	11062	24855	2.35	258	25366	2.40	350*
	SAN LUIS NWR							
	SAN LUIS/BLUE GOOSE UNITS	3858	9202	2.40	27	9257	2.42	51
	S FREITAS UNIT	782	1798	2.30	21	1821	2.33	
	WEST BEAR CREEK UNIT	954	1936	2.03	8	1950	2.04	
	N FREITAS UNIT	761	1897	2.49	6	1903	2.50	
	KESTERSON UNIT	2501	4484	1.82	20	4534	1.84	15
	MERCED NWR	738	1789	2.42	80	1871	2.54	
	KERN NWR	3527	10937	3.10	7	10990	3.12	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34890</b>	<b>75415</b>		<b>618</b>	<b>76791</b>		<b>932</b>
<b>2004-2005</b>	LOS BANOS WLA	4727	7698	1.74	110	7847	1.66	140*
	VOLTA WLA	1988	3498	1.77	3	3637	1.83	11
	NORTH GRASSLAND WLA							
	SALT SLOUGH UNIT	1931	3011	1.67	11	3024	1.57	38
	GADWALL UNIT	978	2920	2.99	11	2940	3.01	6
	CHINA ISLAND UNIT	1260	2315	2.02	31	2508	1.99	72*
	MENDOTA WLA	11112	23785	2.21	478	24370	2.27	211*
	SAN LUIS NWR							
	SAN LUIS/BLUE GOOSE UNITS	4201	10385	2.49	41	10434	2.48	21
	S FREITAS UNIT	665	1582	2.38	30	1614	2.43	
	WEST BEAR CREEK UNIT	1049	2559	2.44	26	2586	2.47	
	N FREITAS UNIT	809	2326	2.88	13	2339	2.89	
	KESTERSON UNIT	2586	5095	2.01	43	5143	1.99	30
	MERCED NWR	753	1981	2.63	61	2045	2.72	
	KERN NWR	3415	10204	2.99	8	10236	3.00	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35474</b>	<b>77359</b>		<b>866</b>	<b>78723</b>		<b>529</b>
<b>2003-2004</b>	LOS BANOS WLA	4552	6907	1.52	115	7022	1.54	71
	VOLTA WLA	1708	2762	1.62	19	2781	1.63	11
	NORTH GRASSLAND WLA							
	SALT SLOUGH UNIT	1854	2626	1.42	6	2632	1.42	103
	GADWALL UNIT	798	1843	2.31	12	1855	2.32	6
	CHINA ISLAND UNIT	1129	1112	0.98	26	1138	1.01	204*
	MENDOTA WLA	11037	19548	1.77	429	19977	1.81	166
	SAN LUIS NWR							
	SAN LUIS/BLUE GOOSE UNITS	4502	8683	1.93	55	8738	1.94	58
	S FREITAS UNIT	829	1461	1.76	18	1479	1.78	
	WEST BEAR CREEK UNIT	847	1467	1.73	14	1481	1.75	
	N FREITAS UNIT	723	1478	2.04	6	1484	2.05	
	KESTERSON UNIT	2626	3331	1.27	36	3367	1.28	1
	MERCED NWR	850	2188	2.57	141	2329	2.74	
	KERN NWR	2963	8113	2.74	17	8166	2.76	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34418</b>	<b>61519</b>		<b>894</b>	<b>62449</b>		<b>620</b>

# Northern San Joaquin Valley Hunting Areas





# Western San Joaquin Valley Hunt Areas



## **CONTACTING CENTRAL VALLEY WILDLIFE AREAS BY TELEPHONE OR MAIL**

If you have questions about the information presented in this brochure or desire additional information on Department of Fish and Game programs, our staff will be happy to assist you. All you need to do is contact one of the offices listed below.

Information regarding Mendota WA may be obtained by calling (559) 655-4645 or writing to Mendota WA, P.O. Box 37, Mendota, CA 93640.

For information on Los Banos, Volta, North Grasslands (Salt Slough, Gadwall & China Island Units), San Luis Reservoir, Cottonwood Creek (Upper & Lower Units), Little Panoche Reservoir, or O'Neill Forebay WA's contact Los Banos/North Grasslands Complex, 18110 W. Henry Miller Avenue, Los Banos, CA 93635 or call (209) 826-0463. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## **REGIONAL OFFICES ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

To obtain information regarding the various areas or DFG programs, call the Regional Office near the area you want to visit. Listed below are the phone numbers for the Regional Offices. Please note that several area codes have been changed.

Northern CA & North Coast Region  
601 Locust, Redding CA 96001  
(530) 225-2300

Sacramento Valley & Central Sierra Region  
1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova CA 95670  
(916) 358-2900

Central Coast Region  
7329 Silverado Trail, (P. O. Box 47)  
Yountville CA 94599  
(707) 944-5500

San Joaquin Valley & Southern Sierra Region  
1234 E. Shaw Avenue, Fresno CA 93710  
(559) 243-4005

South Coast Region  
4949 View Ridge Ave., San Diego CA 92123  
(858) 467-4201

Eastern Sierra & Inland Deserts Region  
4775 Bird Farm Road, Chino Hills CA 91709  
(909) 597-9823

Marine Region  
20 Lower Ragsdale Dr. #100, Monterey CA 93940  
(831) 649-2870

## **Other Department of Fish and Game Offices:**

Fish & Game Headquarters, Sacramento  
(916) 653-7664

License & Revenue Branch  
3211 S Street, Sacramento 95816  
(916) 227-2245

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The San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sierra Region Wing Beat News newsletter is edited by Janae Scruggs (losbanosinfo@dfg.ca.gov).

Alternate communication format is available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed, call Janae Scruggs at (209) 704-4772 or the California Relay (Telephone) Service for the deaf or hearing-impaired from TDD phones at 1-800-735-2929 or 711.